UNITED
NATIONS

CAT

Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment

Distr.
GENERAL

CAT/C/56
8 February 2000

Original: ENGLISH

COMMITTEE AGAINST TORTURE
Twenty-fourth session
Geneva, 1-19 May 2000

# PROVISIONAL AGENDA AND ANNOTATIONS

Note by the Secretary-General

1. The twenty-fourth session of the Committee against Torture will be held at the United Nations Office at Geneva from 1 to 19 May 2000. The first meeting of the session will be convened on Monday, 1 May 2000, at 10 a.m.

2. In accordance with rule 6 of the rules of procedure, the Secretary-General has prepared, in consultation with the Chairman of the Committee, the attached provisional agenda for the twenty-fourth session. Annotations to the provisional agenda are also attached.

3. Pursuant to rule 31 of the rules of procedure, the meetings of the Committee will be held in public unless the Committee decides otherwise or it appears from the relevant provisions of the Convention that the meetings should be held in private.

4. The attention of the States parties is drawn, in particular, to the annotations to item 7, which contain the tentative timetable for the consideration of reports at the twenty-fourth session. In accordance with rule 66 of the rules of procedure, representatives of States parties are invited to attend the meetings of the Committee when their reports are examined.

## PROVISIONAL AGENDA

1. Opening of the session by the representative of the Secretary-General.
2. Solemn declaration by the newly elected members of the Committee, as well as by a member appointed under article 17, paragraph 6, of the Convention.
3. Election of the officers of the Committee.
4. Adoption of the agenda.
5. Organizational and other matters.
6. Submission of reports by States parties under article 19 of the Convention.
7. Consideration of reports submitted by States parties under article 19 of the Convention.
8. Consideration of information received under article 20 of the Convention.
9. Consideration of communications under article 22 of the Convention.
10. Action by the General Assembly at its fifty-fourth session.
11. Annual report of the Committee on its activities.

ANNOTATIONS

1. Opening of the session by the representative of the Secretary-General

The twenty-fourth session of the Committee will be opened by the representative of the Secretary-General, who will preside over the meeting until the election of the Chairman of the Committee.

2. Solemn declaration by the newly elected members of the Committee as well as by a member appointed under article 17, paragraph 6, of the Convention

In accordance with rule 14 of the rules of procedure (CAT/C/3/Rev.3), the five members of the Committee elected or re-elected at the Seventh Meeting of the States parties to the Convention on 24 November 1999 will make the following solemn declaration:

> "I solemnly declare that I will perform my duties and exercise my powers as a member of the Committee against Torture honourably, faithfully, impartially and conscientiously."

Following the resignation of Mr. Bent Sorensen from the Committee and in accordance with article 17, paragraph 6, of the Convention and rule 13 of the rules of procedure, a national of Denmark will be appointed as a member of the Committee to serve for the remainder of the term of Mr. Sorensen, which will expire on 31 December 2001. In accordance with rule 14 of the rules of procedure, the newly appointed member will make the solemn declaration appearing above.

3. Election of the officers of the Committee

In accordance with article 18, paragraph 1, of the Convention, and rules 15 and 16 of the rules of procedure, the Committee shall elect from among its members a chairman, three vice-chairmen and a rapporteur. The officers of the Committee shall be elected for a term of two years.

4. Adoption of the agenda

Under rule 8 of the rules of procedure, the adoption of the agenda shall follow the election of officers when required under rule 15. In accordance with rule 9, during a session the Committee may revise the agenda and may, as appropriate, defer or delete items; only urgent and important items may be added to the agenda.

5. Organizational and other matters

Under this item, the Committee may wish to consider its programme of work for the session, as well as any other matter concerning the modalities of discharging its functions under the Convention.

6. Submission of reports by States parties under article 19 of the Convention

It may be recalled that, in accordance with rule 65 of its rules of procedure and the Committee's decisions, the Secretary-General sends reminders automatically to those States parties whose initial reports are more than 12 months overdue and subsequent reminders every 6 months. In addition, the Committee includes information on non-compliance by States parties with their reporting obligations in its annual report to the States parties and to the General Assembly.

The situation with regard to overdue reports as at 1 February 2000 is as follows:

| State party | Initial reports | Date on which the report was due |
|---|---|---|
| Uganda | | 25 June 1988 |
| Togo | | 17 December 1988 |
| Guyana | | 17 June 1989 |
| Brazil | | 27 October 1990 |
| Guinea | | 8 November 1990 |
| Somalia | | 22 February 1991 |
| Estonia | | 19 November 1992 |
| Yemen | | 4 December 1992 |
| Bosnia and Herzegovina | | 5 March 1993 |
| Benin | | 10 April 1993 |
| Latvia | | 13 May 1993 |
| Seychelles | | 3 June 1993 |
| Cape Verde | | 3 July 1993 |
| Cambodia | | 13 November 1993 |
| Burundi | | 19 March 1994 |
| Slovakia | | 27 May 1994 |
| Antigua and Barbuda | | 17 August 1994 |
| Costa Rica | | 10 December 1994 |
| Ethiopia | | 12 April 1995 |
| Albania | | 9 June 1995 |
| Chad | | 9 July 1995 |
| Republic of Moldova | | 27 December 1996 |
| Côte d'Ivoire | | 16 January 1997 |
| Lithuania | | 1 March 1997 |
| Democratic Republic of the Congo | | 16 April 1997 |
| Malawi | | 10 July 1997 |
| Honduras | | 3 January 1998 |
| Kenya | | 22 March 1998 |
| Saudi Arabia | | 21 October 1998 |
| Bahrain | | 4 April 1999 |
| Kazakhstan | | 24 September 1999 |
| Bangladesh | | 3 November 1999 |
| Niger | | 3 November 1999 |
| Zambia | | 5 November 1999 |
| Indonesia | | 26 November 1999 |
| South Africa | | 8 January 2000 |

| State party | Second periodic reports | Date on which the report was due |
|---|---|---|
| Afghanistan | | 25 June 1992 |
| Belize | | 25 June 1992 |
| Philippines | | 25 June 1992 |
| Uganda | | 25 June 1992 |
| Togo | | 17 December 1992 |
| Guyana | | 17 June 1993 |
| Turkey | | 31 August 1993 |
| Brazil | | 27 October 1994 |
| Guinea | | 8 November 1994 |
| Somalia | | 22 February 1995 |
| Romania | | 16 January 1996 |
| Nepal | | 12 June 1996 |
| Venezuela | | 27 August 1996 |
| Yugoslavia | | 9 October 1996 |
| Estonia | | 19 November 1996 |
| Yemen | | 4 December 1996 |
| Jordan | | 12 December 1996 |
| Monaco | | 4 January 1997 |
| Bosnia and Herzegovina | | 5 March 1997 |
| Benin | | 10 April 1997 |
| Latvia | | 13 May 1997 |
| Seychelles | | 3 June 1997 |
| Cape Verde | | 3 July 1997 |
| Cambodia | | 13 November 1997 |
| Czech Republic | | 31 December 1997 |
| Burundi | | 19 March 1998 |
| Slovakia | | 27 May 1998 |
| Slovenia | | 14 August 1998 |
| Antigua and Barbuda | | 17 August 1998 |
| Costa Rica | | 10 December 1998 |
| Sri Lanka | | 1 February 1999 |
| Ethiopia | | 12 April 1999 |
| Albania | | 9 June 1999 |
| United States of America | | 19 November 1999 |
| The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia | | 11 December 1999 |
| Namibia | | 27 December 1999 |
| | Third periodic reports | |
| Afghanistan | | 25 June 1996 |
| Belize | | 25 June 1996 |
| Bulgaria | | 25 June 1996 |
| Cameroon | | 25 June 1996 |
| France | | 25 June 1996 |
| Philippines | | 25 June 1996 |
| Russian Federation | | 25 June 1996 |
| Senegal | | 25 June 1996 |
| Uganda | | 25 June 1996 |

| State party | Third periodic reports (cont'd) | Date on which the report was due |
|---|---|---|
| Uruguay | | 25 June 1996 |
| Austria | | 27 August 1996 |
| Luxembourg | | 28 October 1996 |
| Togo | | 17 December 1996 |
| Colombia | | 6 January 1997 |
| Ecuador | | 28 April 1997 |
| Guyana | | 17 June 1997 |
| Turkey | | 31 August 1997 |
| Tunisia | | 22 October 1997 |
| Chile | | 29 October 1997 |
| Libyan Arab Jamahiriya | | 14 June 1998 |
| Australia | | 6 September 1998 |
| Algeria | | 11 October 1998 |
| Brazil | | 27 October 1998 |
| Guinea | | 8 November 1998 |
| New Zealand | | 8 January 1999 |
| Somalia | | 22 February 1999 |
| Malta | | 12 October 1999 |
| Germany | | 30 October 1999 |
| Liechtenstein | | 1 December 1999 |
| Romania | | 16 January 2000 |

7. Consideration of reports submitted by States parties under article 19 of the Convention

A tentative timetable for the consideration of reports at the twenty-fourth session, prepared by the Secretary-General, and subject to approval by the Committee, is given below:

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Tuesday, 2 May 2000 | | |
| 10 a.m. | Poland: third periodic report | CAT/C/44/Add.5 |
| Wednesday, 3 May 2000 | | |
| 10 a.m. | Portugal: second periodic report | CAT/C/44/Add.7 |
| 3 p.m. | Poland (continued) | |
| Thursday, 4 May 2000 | | |
| 10 a.m. | China: third periodic report | CAT/C/39/Add.2 |
| 3 p.m. | Portugal (continued) | |

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Friday, 5 May 2000 | | |
| 10 a.m. | Paraguay: third periodic report | CAT/C/49/Add.1 |
| 3 p.m. | Poland (conclusions and recommendations) | |
| 3.30 p.m. | China (continued) | |
| Monday, 8 May 2000 | | |
| 10 a.m. | Armenia: second periodic report | CAT/C/43/Add.3 |
| 3 p.m. | Portugal (conclusions and recommendations) | |
| 3.30 p.m. | Paraguay (continued) | |
| Tuesday, 9 May 2000 | | |
| 10 a.m. | El Salvador: initial report | CAT/C/37/Add.4 |
| 3 p.m. | China (conclusions and recommendations) | |
| 3.30 p.m. | Armenia (continued) | |
| Wednesday, 10 May 2000 | | |
| 10 a.m. | United States of America: initial report | CAT/C/28/Add.5 |
| 3 p.m. | Paraguay (conclusions and recommendations) | |
| 3.30 p.m. | El Salvador (continued) | |
| Thursday, 11 May 2000 | | |
| 10 a.m. | Netherlands: third periodic report | CAT/C/44/Add.4 |
| 3 p.m. | Armenia (conclusions and recommendations) | |
| 3.30 p.m. | United States of America (continued) | |
| Friday, 12 May 2000 | | |
| 10 a.m. | Slovenia: initial report | CAT/C/24/Add.5 |
| 3 p.m. | El Salvador (conclusions and recommendations) | |
| 3.30 p.m. | Netherlands (continued) | |
| Monday, 15 May 2000 | | |
| 3 p.m. | United States of America (conclusions and recommendations) | |
| 3.30 p.m. | Slovenia (continued) | |

Tuesday, 16 May 2000

3 p.m. Netherlands (conclusions and recommendations)

Wednesday, 17 May 2000

3 p.m. Slovenia (conclusions and recommendations)

8. Consideration of information received under article 20 of the Convention

In accordance with the provisions of chapter XVII of its rules of procedure, the Committee will consider under this item information which is, or appears to be, submitted for its consideration under article 20 of the Convention.

In accordance with the provisions of article 20, paragraph 5, of the Convention and rules 72 and 73 of the rules of procedure, all documents and proceedings of the Committee relating to its functions under article 20 of the Convention shall be confidential and all the meetings concerning its proceedings under that article shall be closed.

9. Consideration of communications under article 22 of the Convention

In accordance with the provisions of chapter XIX of its rules of procedure, the Committee will consider under this item communications which are, or appear to be, submitted to it under article 22 of the Convention.

In accordance with article 22, paragraph 6, of the Convention and rule 101, paragraph 1, of the rules of procedure, meetings of the Committee or its subsidiary bodies during which communications under article 22 of the Convention are examined shall be closed.

10. Action by the General Assembly at its fifty-fourth session

(a) Annual report submitted by the Committee against Torture under article 24 of the Convention;*

(b) Effective implementation of international instruments on human rights, including reporting obligations under international instruments on human rights.

Under this item, the Committee will have before it the relevant resolutions and decisions adopted by the General Assembly at its fifty-fourth session and the Commission on Human Rights at its fifty-sixth session.

11. Annual report of the Committee on its activities

In accordance with article 24 of the Convention, the Committee shall submit an annual report on its activities to the States parties and to the General Assembly.

At its second session, the Committee decided to adopt its annual report at the end of its spring session, for appropriate transmission to the General Assembly during the same calendar year. Accordingly, the annual report to be submitted to the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session will include the activities of the Committee at its twenty-third and twenty-fourth sessions.

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* Official Records of the General Assembly, fifty-fourth session, Supplement No. 44 (A/54/44).

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COMMITTEE AGAINST TORTURE
Twenty-fifth session
Geneva, 13-24 November 2000

# PROVISIONAL AGENDA AND ANNOTATIONS

Note by the Secretary-General

1. The twenty-fifth session of the Committee against Torture will be held at the United Nations Office at Geneva (Palais Wilson) from 13 to 24 November 2000. The first meeting of the session will be convened on Monday, 13 November 2000, at 10 a.m.

2. In accordance with rule 6 of the rules of procedure, the Secretary-General has prepared, in consultation with the Chairman of the Committee, the attached provisional agenda for the twenty-fifth session. Annotations to the provisional agenda are also attached.

3. Pursuant to rule 31 of the rules of procedure, the meetings of the Committee will be held in public unless the Committee decides otherwise or it appears from the relevant provisions of the Convention that the meetings should be held in private.

4. The attention of the States parties is drawn, in particular, to the annotations to item 4, which contain the tentative timetable for the consideration of reports at the twenty-fifth session. In accordance with rule 66 of the rules of procedure, representatives of States parties are invited to attend the meetings of the Committee when their reports are examined.

## PROVISIONAL AGENDA

1. Adoption of the agenda.

2. Organizational and other matters.

3. Submission of reports by States parties under article 19 of the Convention.

4. Consideration of reports submitted by States parties under article 19 of the Convention.

5. Consideration of information received under article 20 of the Convention.

6. Consideration of communications under article 22 of the Convention.

## ANNOTATIONS

1. Adoption of the agenda

Under rule 8 of the rules of procedure, the first item on the agenda of any session shall be the adoption of the agenda, except for the election of officers when required under rule 15. In accordance with rule 9, during a session the Committee may revise the agenda and may, as appropriate, defer or delete items; only urgent and important items may be added to the agenda.

2. Organizational and other matters

Under this item, the Committee may wish to consider its programme of work for the session, as well as any other matter concerning the modalities of discharging its functions under the Convention.

3. Submission of reports by States parties under article 19 of the Convention

It may be recalled that, in accordance with rule 65 of its rules of procedure and the Committee's decisions, the Secretary-General sends reminders automatically to those States parties whose reports are overdue. By a note dated 27 June 2000, the Secretary-General transmitted to the States parties to human rights treaties, including the Convention, a document outlining their reporting history (HRI/GEN/4) to remind them of their reporting obligations. In addition, the Committee includes information on non-compliance by States parties with their reporting obligations in its annual reports to the States parties and to the General Assembly.

The situation with regard to overdue reports as at 1 August 2000 is as follows:

| State party | Date on which the report was due |
|---|---|
| **Initial reports** | |
| Uganda | 25 June 1988 |
| Togo | 17 December 1988 |
| Guyana | 17 June 1989 |
| Guinea | 8 November 1990 |
| Somalia | 22 February 1991 |
| Estonia | 19 November 1992 |
| Yemen | 4 December 1992 |
| Bosnia and Herzegovina | 5 March 1993 |
| Benin | 10 April 1993 |
| Latvia | 13 May 1993 |
| Seychelles | 3 June 1993 |
| Cape Verde | 3 July 1993 |
| Cambodia | 13 November 1993 |
| Burundi | 19 March 1994 |
| Antigua and Barbuda | 17 August 1994 |
| Costa Rica | 10 December 1994 |

| State party | Date on which the report was due |
|---|---|
| **Initial reports (continued)** | |
| Ethiopia | 12 April 1995 |
| Albania | 9 June 1995 |
| Chad | 9 July 1995 |
| Republic of Moldova | 27 December 1996 |
| Côte d'Ivoire | 16 January 1997 |
| Lithuania | 1 March 1997 |
| Democratic Republic of the Congo | 16 April 1997 |
| Malawi | 10 July 1997 |
| Honduras | 3 January 1998 |
| Kenya | 22 March 1998 |
| Saudi Arabia | 21 October 1998 |
| Bahrain | 4 April 1999 |
| Kazakhstan | 24 September 1999 |
| Bangladesh | 3 November 1999 |
| Niger | 3 November 1999 |
| Zambia | 5 November 1999 |
| Indonesia | 26 November 1999 |
| South Africa | 8 January 2000 |
| Burkina Faso | 2 February 2000 |
| Mali | 27 March 2000 |
| Belgium | 25 July 2000 |
| Turkmenistan | 25 July 2000 |
| Japan | 29 July 2000 |
| **Second periodic reports** | |
| Afghanistan | 25 June 1992 |
| Belize | 25 June 1992 |
| Philippines | 25 June 1992 |
| Uganda | 25 June 1992 |
| Togo | 17 December 1992 |
| Guyana | 17 June 1993 |
| Turkey | 31 August 1993 |
| Brazil | 27 October 1994 |
| Guinea | 8 November 1994 |
| Somalia | 22 February 1995 |
| Romania | 16 January 1996 |
| Nepal | 12 June 1996 |
| Venezuela | 27 August 1996 |
| Yugoslavia | 9 October 1996 |
| Estonia | 19 November 1996 |
| Yemen | 4 December 1996 |
| Jordan | 12 December 1996 |

| State party | Date on which the report was due |
|---|---|
| **Second periodic reports (continued)** | |
| Monaco | 4 January 1997 |
| Bosnia and Herzegovina | 5 March 1997 |
| Benin | 10 April 1997 |
| Latvia | 13 May 1997 |
| Seychelles | 3 June 1997 |
| Cape Verde | 3 July 1997 |
| Cambodia | 13 November 1997 |
| Burundi | 19 March 1998 |
| Slovakia | 27 May 1998 |
| Slovenia | 14 August 1998 |
| Antigua and Barbuda | 17 August 1998 |
| Costa Rica | 10 December 1998 |
| Sri Lanka | 1 February 1999 |
| Ethiopia | 12 April 1999 |
| Albania | 9 June 1999 |
| United States of America | 19 November 1999 |
| The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia | 11 December 1999 |
| Namibia | 27 December 1999 |
| Republic of Korea | 7 February 2000 |
| Tajikistan | 9 February 2000 |
| Cuba | 15 June 2000 |
| Chad | 8 July 2000 |
| **Third periodic reports** | |
| Afghanistan | 25 June 1996 |
| Belize | 25 June 1996 |
| Bulgaria | 25 June 1996 |
| Cameroon | 25 June 1996 |
| France | 25 June 1996 |
| Philippines | 25 June 1996 |
| Russian Federation | 25 June 1996 |
| Senegal | 25 June 1996 |
| Uganda | 25 June 1996 |
| Uruguay | 25 June 1996 |
| Austria | 27 August 1996 |
| Luxembourg | 28 October 1996 |
| Togo | 17 December 1996 |
| Colombia | 6 January 1997 |
| Ecuador | 28 April 1997 |
| Guyana | 17 June 1997 |
| Turkey | 31 August 1997 |
| Tunisia | 22 October 1997 |

| State party | Date on which the report was due |
|---|---|
| **Third periodic reports (continued)** | |
| Chile | 29 October 1997 |
| Libyan Arab Jamahiriya | 14 June 1998 |
| Australia | 6 September 1998 |
| Algeria | 11 October 1998 |
| Brazil | 27 October 1998 |
| Guinea | 8 November 1998 |
| New Zealand | 8 January 1999 |
| Somalia | 22 February 1999 |
| Malta | 12 October 1999 |
| Germany | 30 October 1999 |
| Liechtenstein | 1 December 1999 |
| Romania | 16 January 2000 |
| Nepal | 12 June 2000 |
| **Fourth periodic reports** | |
| Afghanistan | 25 June 2000 |
| Argentina | 25 June 2000 |
| Belarus | 25 June 2000 |
| Belize | 25 June 2000 |
| Bulgaria | 25 June 2000 |
| Cameroon | 25 June 2000 |
| Denmark | 25 June 2000 |
| Egypt | 25 June 2000 |
| France | 25 June 2000 |
| Hungary | 25 June 2000 |
| Mexico | 25 June 2000 |
| Norway | 25 June 2000 |
| Philippines | 25 June 2000 |
| Russian Federation | 25 June 2000 |
| Senegal | 25 June 2000 |
| Sweden | 25 June 2000 |
| Switzerland | 25 June 2000 |
| Uganda | 25 June 2000 |
| Uruguay | 25 June 2000 |
| Canada | 23 July 2000 |

4. Consideration of reports submitted by States parties under article 19 of the Convention

A tentative timetable for the consideration of reports at the twenty-fifth session, prepared by the Secretary-General and subject to approval by the Committee, is given below:

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Tuesday, 14 November 2000 | | |
| 10.00 a.m. | Armenia: second periodic report | CAT/C/43/Add.3 |
| Wednesday, 15 November 2000 | | |
| 10.00 a.m. | Belarus: third periodic report | CAT/C/34/Add.12 |
| 3.00 p.m. | Armenia: replies | |
| Thursday, 16 November 2000 | | |
| 10.00 a.m. | Australia: second periodic report | CAT/C/25/Add.11 |
| 3.00 p.m. | Belarus: replies | |
| Friday, 17 November 2000 | | |
| 10.00 a.m. | Canada: third periodic report | CAT/C/34/Add.13 |
| 3.00 p.m. | Armenia: conclusions and recommendations | |
| 3.30 p.m. | Australia: replies | |
| Monday, 20 November 2000 | | |
| 10.00 a.m. | Cameroon: second periodic report | CAT/C/17/Add.22 |
| 3.00 p.m. | Belarus: conclusions and recommendations | |
| 3.30 p.m. | Canada: replies | |
| Tuesday, 21 November 2000 | | |
| 10.00 a.m. | Guatemala: third periodic report | CAT/C/49/Add.2 |
| 3.00 p.m. | Australia: conclusions and recommendations | |
| 3.30 p.m. | Cameroon: replies | |
| Wednesday, 22 November 2000 | | |
| 3.00 p.m. | Canada: conclusions and recommendations | |
| 3.30 p.m. | Guatemala: replies | |

Thursday, 23 November 2000

3.00 p.m. Cameroon: conclusions and recommendations

Friday, 24 November 2000

10.30 a.m. Guatemala: conclusions and recommendations

5. Consideration of information under article 20 of the Convention

In accordance with the provisions of chapter XVII of its rules of procedure, the Committee will consider under this item information which is, or appears to be, submitted for its consideration under article 20 of the Convention.

In accordance with the provisions of article 20, paragraph 5, of the Convention and rules 72 and 73 of the rules of procedure, all documents and proceedings of the Committee relating to its functions under article 20 of the Convention shall be confidential and all the meetings concerning its proceedings under that article shall be closed.

6. Consideration of communications under article 22 of the Convention

In accordance with the provisions of chapter XIX of its rules of procedure, the Committee will consider under this item communications which are, or appear to be, submitted to it under article 22 of the Convention.

In accordance with article 22, paragraph 6, of the Convention and rule 101, paragraph 1, of the rules of procedure, meetings of the Committee or its subsidiary bodies during which communications under article 22 of the Convention are examined shall be closed.

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